Housing Shortage

472. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated housing shortage at the time of commencement of the Sixth Five Year Plan and the percentage of increase in the housing shortage at the end of Seventh Five Year Plan period;

(b) the total homeless population living on pavements, etc. alongwith its percentage as per the country's entire population;

(c) the estimated percentage of rise between demand and supply of housing by 2000 AD year-wise; and

(d) the extent to which the gap in housing demand is anticipated to be bridged by 2000 AD?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION) (Sh. S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) As per estimates made by NBO on the basis of 1971 and 1981 census data, the housing shortage as on 1.3.80 (beginning of the Sixth Five Year Plan) was 22.43 million dwelling units, which rose to 30.3 million at the end of Seventh Plan i.e. 1.3.90. The percentage increase during the period works out to 35.09%.

(b) As per 1991 census data, the total population of the country was 83.85 crores, out of which 0.20 crores i.e. 0.24%, were absolutely houseless.

(c) and (d) According to the 8th Five Year Plan document, the housing shortage in 2001 A.D. is expected to be 41 million dwelling units. The contribution of the formal sector in providing housing stock is estimated to be at the rate of 1.3 million units per year.

Development of Daitari-Banspani RAil Line in Orissa by Private Sector

473. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD: SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have allowed the private sector to develop the strategically important Daitari-Banspani rail line in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI): (a) and (b) The work on the Daitari-Banspani line has been taken up with funding out of the allocation provided for New Lines out of Budgetary support. However, in view of the urgent need for the line as a result of the Steel Plants coming up in the area and the limited availability of resources under the above head, early completion of the line with private participation is being explored.

Disaster Management of Red Cross

474. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) when the report of the consultant for review of disaster management of the Red Cross was received;

(b) what decisions were taken on the consultant's recommendations with regard to warehouses in different parts of the country;

(c) whether instances of payments from Red Cross funds without prior approval of competent committee of the Red Cross have come to the notice of the Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A.R.

ANTULAY): (a) Three volumes of the observations of the Consultant have been received so far. Based on the study thereof, the Consultant will submit the fourth and concluding volume of the report.

(b) As soon as the concluding report is submitted by the Consultant, the same will be placed before the Managing Body of the Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS) for its consideration and decision.

(c) and (d) The IRCS has informed that the matter relating to payment of Rs.1,13,566/- for airlifting charges will be placed before the Managing Body of the IRCS for approval.

Production of Electronic Goods

475. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the specific steps taken by Government to increase the production of electronic goods of mass consumption;

(b) the States where the achievement made in that direction is satisfactory;

(c) the performance of other States in the matter during 1995-96; and

(d) the policy of Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The specific steps taken by the Government to increase the production of electronics goods are given in the Statement (*see* below)

(b) to (d) The Government of India encourage the setting up of electronic industries throughout the country in all relevant sectors of electronics. In the State Government or agencies like the State Electronics Development corporation (SEDCs) provide some facilities and promotional incentives for setting up of specific industrial units in the State. The Department of Electronics gives necessary guidance and some assistance for projects in areas such as manpower development, quality control, testing and standardisation, R&D in electronics etc.

Statement

Measures taken to boost the growth of Electronics Industry in the country

(i) Policy initiatives like exemption from locational limitations, abolition of licensing except for four specific items, abolition of phased manufacturing programme and amendment to the MRTP Act to facilitate investments.

(ii) Liberalisation of Export-Import Policy by allowing free access to imported capital goods, value based advanced licensing scheme etc.

(iii) Rationalisation of fiscal policy especially in the areas of duty structure, corporate taxation etc.

(iv) Introduction of the Software Technology Park Scheme which seeks to provide infrastructural facilities for small software houses keen to enter the export market. The scheme also gives the flexibility to set up private STPs which can be done by bigger companies taking advantage of the duty free facilities offered for import of CC etc.

(v) Introduction of the Electronics Hardware Technology Park Scheme (EHTP) designed to meet the specific requirements of a globally oriented electronics sector. This would provide a flexible policy environment that would greatly enhance the ease of doing business and making professional excess to the vast